The original story manga based on the smash hit courtroom mystery game!

Phoenix Wright

Chapter 3 Turnabout Gallows ②

HOT-BLOODED ATTORNEY PHOENIX WRIGHT TAKES ON A TRULY MYSTERIOUS CASE!

WELCOME TO SPIDER MANSION...

STORY: KENJI KURODA

ART: KAZUO MAEKAWA

GIGANTIC Volume, 56 Pages!

SUPERVISION & COLLABORATION: CAPCOM

http://www.capcom.co.jp/gyakutensaiban/

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THANKS TO RITUAL SCAN FORGE FOR THE RAW SCANS.

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September 20th, 8:15 PM
The Second House (Spider Mansion)

On the grounds of a grand mansion towers an eerie black building. Inside are skittering spiders and numerous books... it's the fearsome Spider Mansion!

※This story is fictional, and the people and organizations in it have no relation to those in the real world.

HO! HO! HE DOESN'T REALLY TALK TO ANYONE OTHER THAN MYSELF. PLEASE DON'T TAKE OFFENSE!

Not at all!

Good evening!

.....

G-GOOD... EVE... NING...

Aren't you going to greet them, Sasao?

THIS IS THE OWNER OF THIS WONDERFUL SPIDER MANSION, SASAO KOMORI!

HE SAYS THAT RATHER THAN DISPLAYING THE SPIDERS HERE AND THERE IN LARGE ROOMS...

...HE CAN FEEL THEIR SPIRITS BETTER BY KEEPING THEM CLOSER LIKE THIS.

Cht Cht Cht

ALL THESE BOOKS ARE ABOUT SPIDERS, AREN'T THEY?

'THE SPIDER'S THREAD', 'A SPIDER-DEMON'S JUSTICE' ...EVEN 'KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN'!

HE EVEN HAS THE 'SPIDER-MAN' COMICS HERE!

FROM ACADEMIC TEXTS TO ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIAS, NOVELS TO COMICS, ALL OF THEM ARE VALUABLE BOOKS.

IT WOULD BE NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT ALL THE BOOKS EVER PUBLISHED ABOUT SPIDERS ACROSS THE WORLD ARE HERE.

4

AMAZING. THE BOOKS ARE ARRANGED IN A SURPRISINGLY ORDERLY WAY.

The World of Spiders 4
The World of Spiders 3
The World of Spiders 2
The World of Spiders 1
The Great Illustrated Encyclopedia of Spiders 0
The Great Illustrated Encyclopedia of Spiders 4
The Great Illustrated Encyclopedia of Spiders 3
The Great Illustrated Encyclopedia of Spiders 2
The Great Illustrated Encyclopedia of Spiders 1

THEY'RE EVEN LINED UP NEATLY BY SIZE.

THE SHELVES WERE APPARENTLY BUILT TO SUIT THE SIZES OF THE BOOKS AND GLASS CASES.

SO THERE ARE NO GAPS AT ALL!

AS PERFECT AND BEAUTIFUL AS A SPIDER'S WEB!

Perfect and beautiful!

THIS PLACE IS A SPIDER MANIAC'S PARADISE! HO! HO!

SEE THAT LIFT OVER THERE?

YOU WANT TO TRY IT OUT?

ER... SURE.

UMM...

HOW DO YOU GET THE BOOKS ALL THE WAY UP THERE?

DON'T WORRY! JUST PRESS THE RED BUTTON IN FRONT OF YOU.

IS IT OKAY TO HAVE TWO PEOPLE ON THIS?

ME TOO, ME TOO! ♪

CLANK

OH? IS THAT AS HIGH AS IT GETS?

I CAN'T REACH THOSE!

glance glance

I-it's so high...

SCREECH

THAT'S THE LIMIT!

IF IT WAS SET TO GO ANY HIGHER, TALLER PEOPLE WOULD BUMP THEIR HEADS!

T-THAT'S ENOUGH! LET ME DOWN!! LET ME DOWN!!

UWAAAAAH!

CLUNK

Cht

Cht

DUN DUN

W-WHAT!? HOLD ON, MR. YAMASHIRO!

That's so careless...

ACTUALLY, THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL SAYS IT'S STRICTLY FORBIDDEN FOR TWO PEOPLE TO USE THE LIFT AT THE SAME TIME.

AH ...!

HITOMI... ESCAPED AGAIN...!!

Cht Cht Cht Cht Cht Cht Cht

EEEK!!

. . . . . .

OH NO! THIS IS BAD! YOU TWO, COME AND GIVE US A HAND!

BAN!

W-WAIT... HITOMI .....!

Cht

Cht

Cht

IT'S SO DUSTY! WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

HITO... MI... WHERE...? WHERE...?

CLICK!

IT LOOKS LIKE A STORAGE AREA.

HITO-MI...

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

WAAH?

RUSTLE

...

NO PROBLEM! WE'LL JUST MOVE THE CANISTERS ...

CHK CHK

SHE WENT BEHIND THE GASOLINE CANS!

THERE SHE IS!

NICK! THERE'S ROOM ON TOP OF THAT SHELF OVER THERE!

HUH?

...BUT WHERE CAN I PUT THEM DOWN?

They're heavy!

QUIVER

QUIVER

QUIVER

THERE'S TOO MUCH JUNK! THERE'S NOWHERE TO PUT THEM DOWN!

Thud Thud

THERE SHE IS! I FOUND HER ~~~!

HRRN... HHNN NGG...

HITO... MI...

8

WAAAAAAAH! WAAAAAAAH! I JUST CAUGHT HER WITHOUT THINKING!!

WHAT SHOULD I DO? SHE'S RUNNING AROUND IN MY HANDS! EEEK! EEEEEEK!

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

W-WAIT... I'LL FIND SOME SORT OF CONTAINER ...!

umm

umm

Got-cha! ♪

Aha!!

AF

DUN DUN DUN

Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk Chk

CATCH-ING HER...

TH... THANKS... FOR...

My only good— suit...

PAT PAT

AND SEALED WITH PACKING TAPE! ALRIGHT! ♪

HUH!?

SWOOSH

I'VE HAD IT! HERE!

!

B-BUT ISN'T SHE ONE OF YOUR BELOVED SPIDERS?

AS THANKS... I'LL... GIVE YOU... HITOMI.

SHE PROBABLY ... HATES ME...

LIKE MY BROTHER ...

SHE... JUST KEEPS RUNNING AWAY... THAT'S WHY...

Take good care of her...

TH-THANK YOU.

SHE'S... FULL OF EGGS...

THE BABIES SHOULD BE BORN... SOON...

THAT'S WHY... I'M GIVING HER... TO YOU...

.....

September 20th, 8:45 PM
The Second House (Spider Mansion)

...
BESIDES...

MY BROTHER TOLD ME... NOT TO GO OUTSIDE...

...YES... I LIKE... IT HERE...

DO YOU SPEND ALL DAY IN THIS PLACE, SASAO?

AS LONG AS I CAN LIVE WITH THEM... I'M ALRIGHT...

...THE SPIDERS ...

THAT'S TRUE! IT'S ALL SOFT AND FLUFFY AND FEELS REALLY COMFORT-ABLE!♪

IS IT OKAY IF I TRY IT OUT FOR A SEC?

SQUISH SQUISH

U-UMM ...

THIS RECLINING *CHAIR* DOUBLES AS A BED.

IT'S QUITE COMFY TO SLEEP ON! HO! HO!

THE CEO'S WIFE BRINGS HIS MEALS OVER.

WHAT IS IT, MR. WRIGHT?

HMM

BOUNCE BOUNCE

WOOHOO!

MR. KIMURA... I DON'T THINK YOU'LL APPRECIATE ME SAYING IT, BUT...

ARE YOU SURE THE CEO HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR BROTHER'S SUICIDE?

BUT THEN WHY DIDN'T HE JUST ESCAPE RIGHT AWAY...?

WHAT?

I WOULDN'T THINK IT'S STRANGE THAT HE KILLED HIMSELF!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? IF HE WAS TRAPPED IN THIS ROOM FOR A LONG TIME...

AN ARACHNO-PHOBIC LIKE MY BROTHER WOULD BE SURE TO GO INTO A PANIC!!

SNATCH

NOW THAT'S RIGHT NEXT TO THE DOOR THAT CAN'T BE IT

IS IT A TV REMOTE

AHH

AH! THAT'S

EEEE EEEK!

WHAT IS THIS!?

I CAN'T MOVE !!!

HELP MEEE! NICK! HUDDDY!!!

WHAT IS THIS?

AS THAT WAS SAID...

SO MY BROTHER'S GIRL-THING

THAT'S AMAZING

WHEN IMPORTANT GUESTS VISIT IT WOULD BE TROUBLESOME IF I WALKED OUTSIDE ON MY OWN

A... DEVICE TO... RESTRAIN ME...

PAT

HE'S HAPPY AS LONG AS HE'S AMONG HIS SPIDERS.

OH NO, NO, SASAO DOESN'T HATE BEING BOUND TO THIS CHAIR.

THE CEO DOES THIS ONLY BECAUSE HE LOVES HIS BROTHER.

BUT BEING TIED TO A CHAIR...

PAT PAT

.....

ISN'T THAT SO, SASAO?

...ALTHOUGH HE CLAIMS TO UNDERSTAND SASAO THE MOST...

IT LOOKS LIKE HE CAN'T SPEAK UP AGAINST THE CEO EITHER.

IT'D BE BAD IF HE GOT HURT RUNNING OUTSIDE, HEAD OVER HEELS WHEN CHASING AFTER A RUNAWAY SPIDER, HMM?

THIS CHAIR IS JUST LIKE AN INFANT'S PLAY PEN.

WHEN SASAO GETS ENGROSSED WITH HIS SPIDERS, HE CAN'T SEE WHAT ELSE IS AROUND HIM.

WELL, IF THE *MAIN POWER IS SWITCHED OFF*, THE SAFETY SYSTEM WILL ACTIVATE AND THE LOCKS *WILL BE RELEASED*

WHERE IS THE MAIN POWER SWITCH?

BUT YOU CAN'T FREE YOURSELF WITHOUT THE REMOTE, RIGHT!?

MR. YAMA-SHIRO!

ONCE YOU'RE RESTRAINED IN THAT DEVICE, IS THERE A WAY TO FREE YOURSELF?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING..? YOU CAN JUST FREE YOURSELF WITH THAT REMOTE CONTROL.

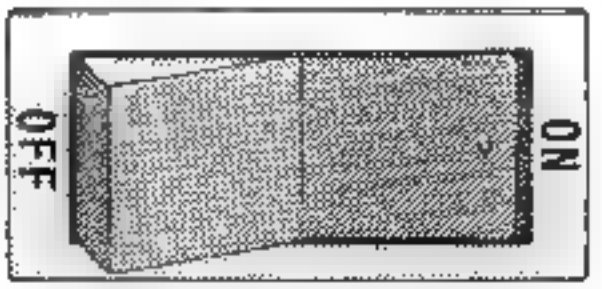
OVER HERE...

IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU DON'T HAVE THAT REMOTE IN YOUR HANDS WHILE YOU'RE BEING RESTRAINED..

YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY YOURSELF, RIGHT!?

IF... IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...

BUT WITH THE SWITCH OVER THERE, *YOU CAN'T REACH IT ONCE YOU'VE BEEN RESTRAINED!!*



WAITING FOR THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY, THE CEO HAD JIROU SIT IN THE CHAIR THEN HE PUSHED THE BUTTON ON THE REMOTE CONTROL

!?

SNAP

BUZZ

USING THIS METHOD, EVEN THE WEAKER CEO COULD HAVE LOCKED JIROU INSIDE THIS PLACE.

MR WRIGHT!

MY LITTLE BROTHER, JIROU, HE WAS KILLED BY THE CEO AFTER ALL!!

JIROU WENT INTO A STATE OF PANIC.

AND THEN...!

THE SPI-DERS!

THE SPI-DERS!

AAAH

AAAH

AAAH

BEING CONFINED FOR SUCH A LONG PERIOD OF TIME IN A ROOM FILLED WITH SKITTERING, CREEPY SPIDERS....

NO- THAT IS...

ARE YOU STILL GOING TO DEFEND THE CEO IN COURT IN SPITE OF THIS?

IT WAS DESIGNED SO THAT SASAO COULDN'T BREAK THE CHAIR WHEN HE THROWS A TANTRUM

THE TABLE'S THE SAME, SEE.

SHOVE

SHOVE

SHOVE

Even violent struggling isn't going to move it!

THERE ARE *SPECIAL METAL FITTINGS* FIRMLY FIXING THIS IN PLACE!

SHOVE

SHOVE

JUST LOOK AT THIS!

I CAN'T JUST KEEP QUIET ABOUT THIS!

I'M GOING TO GO TALK TO THE CEO ONCE MORE!

WOOSH

MR. KIMURA, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

BAM

Grrrr

OH MY WHEN DID IT GET TO BE THIS LATE?

BYE NOW! HO! HO!

SASAO, I'LL COME VISIT AGAIN SOON.

BECAUSE HE'S GOT TO BE...

THE CULPRIT.

ALL RIGHT.

LET'S GO MEET WITH MR. KOMEDA AGAIN AND GET SOME MORE INFORMATION OUT OF HIM.

EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T HAVE A DIRECT HAND IN IT...

WHAT HE DID WASN'T ANY DIFFERENT FROM COMMITTING A MURDER, RIGHT?

!

IT'S LOCKED. THOUGH- HE'S GOT TO BE IN THERE!

I KNOCKED ON THE DOOR TO THE CEO'S STUDY, BUT HE WON'T ANSWER

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

CREAK

!

A DOINK? BUT YOU'RE NOT EVEN 20 YET, ARE YOU?

ISN'T IT ILLEGAL FOR MINORS TO-

YOU'RE GOING OUT AT THIS HOUR, SARA?

OH SORRY. MY DAD I MEANT WE'RE GOING OUT FOR SOME CAKE

WELL, SEEYA! ♪

YEAH .. A FRIEND INVITED ME OUT FOR A DRINK.

GLITTER

WE'LL LET MR KOMORI KNOW

AND THEN WE'LL HEAD OUT

MM.

I THINK WE'RE BETTER OFF DECLINING THIS CASE

IT'D BE RUDE FOR US TO LEAVE WITHOUT LETTING HIM KNOW, THOUGH

MAYBE WE SHOULD TELL HIS WIFE?

UMM~~~... WELL, I DON'T THINK SHE LIKED SEEING US HERE...

She wouldn't even look at us

KNOCK KNOCK

SIR, IT'S PHOENIX WRIGHT.

RATTLE

HE'S NOT ANSWERING MAYBE HE'S ASLEEP?

RATTLE

SIGH

THERE MIGHT BE SOME *NEKO MANMA* LEFT!♪

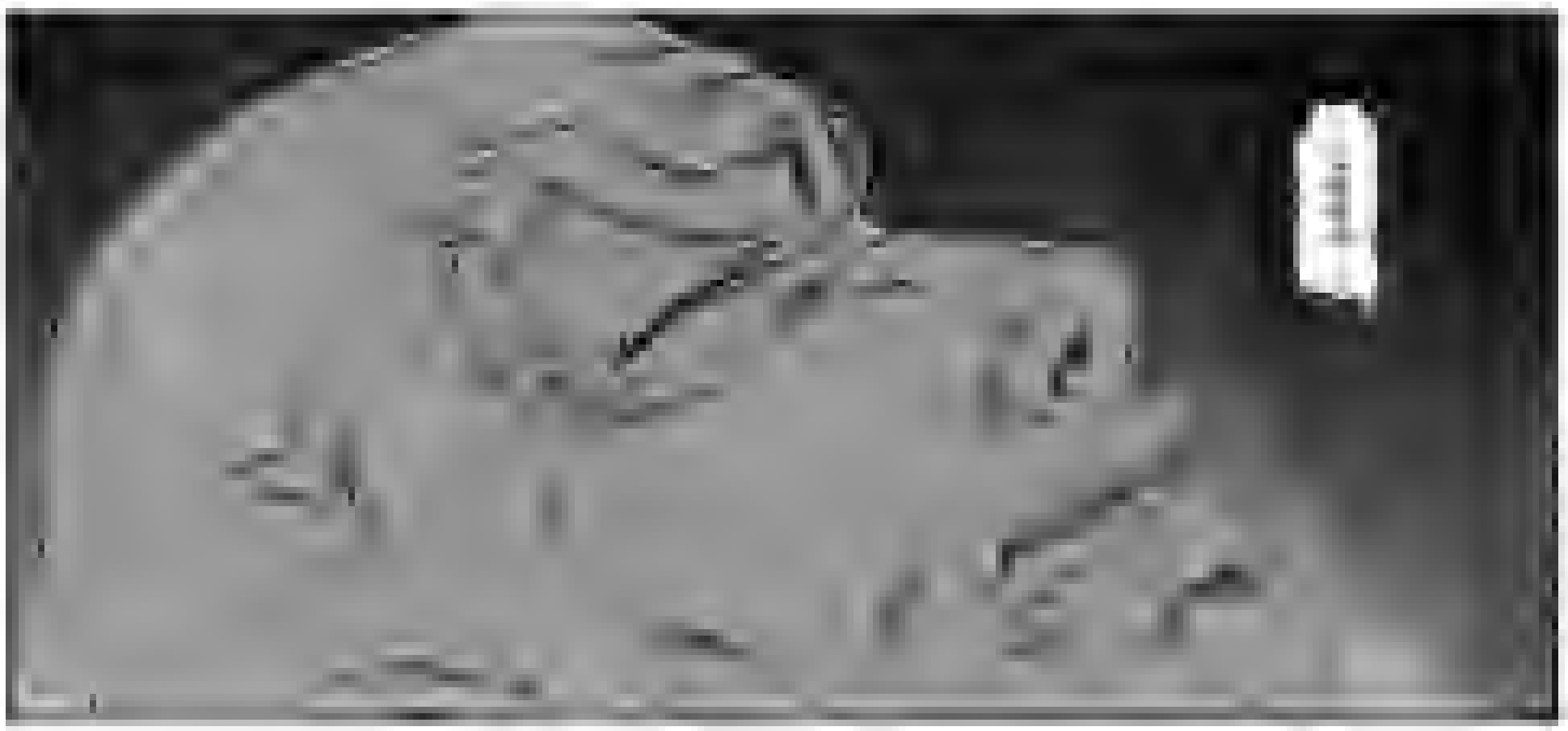
THEN LET'S WAIT IN THE DINING ROOM FOR HIM TO WAKE UP!

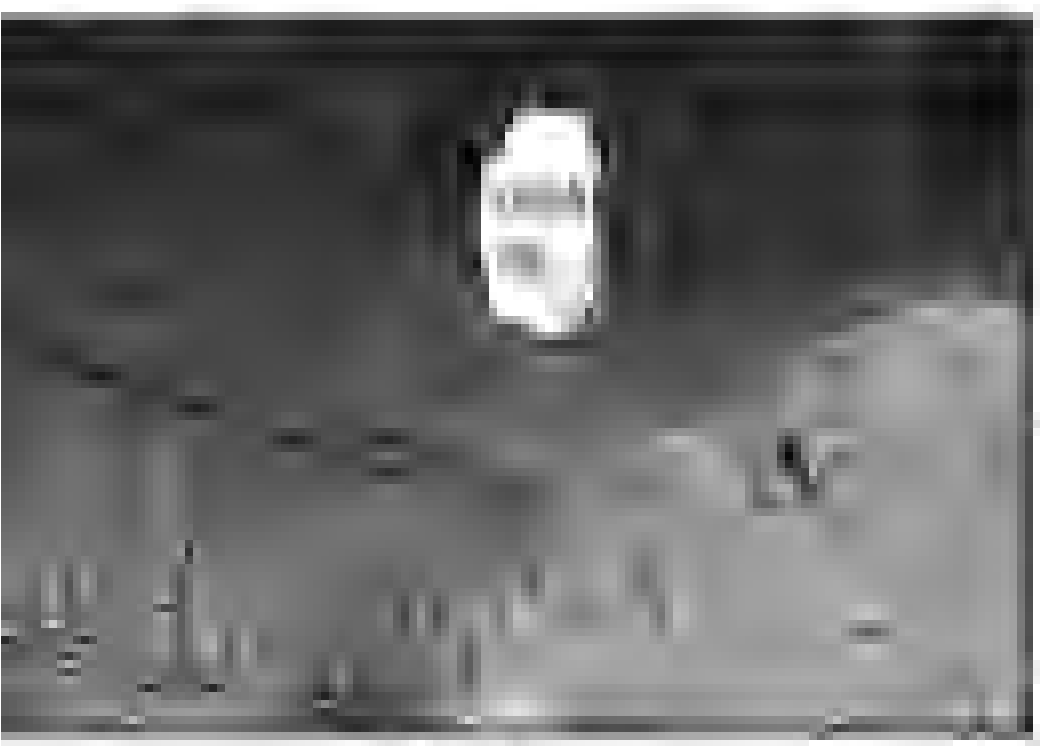
Boing

Boing

Boing

September 20th, 10:28 PM
The Second House (Spider Mansion)





WH-
WHAT...!?

WHO...

WHO
DID
THIS!?

STRETCH

DAMN
IT...

WHO
WOULD...
DO
THIS...?

!!

Like you
mumble,
Mr. CEO...!

!!

WHO'S
THERE?

WHERE
ARE YOU
HIDING?

Please,
LOOK UP!

But
I'm not
hiding...

UP

ON THE CEILING!?

TH- THERE'S A MAN...

KEKEKEKE

WH- WHAT ARE YOU!?

I'm Jirou Kumura.

The man you killed...!

Chk Chk Chk

It's me!

Wait! Hitori-yan! Please-!!

Thanks to you I was able to overcome my fear of water.

I came back to life to find you and my friends...

You Kumura?

B-but that's impossible

I THOUGHT AS HARD AS I COULD ON HOW I COULD ESCAPE FROM THIS PLACE, THIS FEAR...

AND THEN I REALIZED...

THAT DAY... LOCKED IN THIS MANSION... I TASTED THE FEAR OF DEATH ITSELF!

AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU...

THANK YOU... SO VERY MUCH!!!

CHT CHT

AFTER SO MANY YEARS, I'VE FINALLY OVERCOME MY WEAKNESS!

THEN, I'D NO LONGER BE AFRAID!

I COULD BECOME A SPIDER MYSELF!

CHT CHT

THIS IS A DREAM!

PINCH LOUD!

Shake

Shake

YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DIE PEACE-FULLY...!

MR. CEO...

LET'S PLAY A GAME.

YOU'VE SPREAD KERO-SENE!?

Twitch

!!

K... KERO-SENE!?

IT WILL START A FIRE AT EXACTLY 11 PM.

THERE ARE 30 MINUTES LEFT

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP

WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING, I SET UP A TIMED IGNITION DEVICE.

HOWEVER I'M TAKING THE REMOTE CONTROL FOR THE RESTRAINTS WITH ME.

IF YOU CAN ESCAPE FROM THIS PLACE WITHIN 30 MINUTES, YOU'LL BE SAFE.

S-STOP! RELEASE THE RESTRAINTS!

THE FIRE WILL SPREAD INSTANT-ANEOUSLY.

SOMEONE

ISN'T ANYONE THERE!?

WHERE ARE YOU GUNG!?

W-WAIT!!

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.

BANG

LET ME PUT RELEASE THE RESTRAINTS!

HELP! HELP ME!

BANG BANG BANG

BANG

NO NO!

NO MATTER HOW IT SCREAM, IT'S NOT GOING TO RELEASE THE HOLD.

BANG

BANG BANG

AHH! AHH!

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT CALMLY, YOU'LL FIND A SOLUTION!

CALM DOWN. JUST CALM DOWN!

IF I DRAW WHAT I SEE...!

IT'S ALRIGHT! IF I SKETCH WHAT I SEE, I'LL THINK OF A SOLUTION...

IT IS HOW I'VE ALWAYS SUCCEEDED.

September 20th, 10:51 PM
Dining Room

I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
DO YOU THINK HE'S STILL ASLEEP...?
IT'S ALMOST 11 PM...
YEAH.
OH MY GOODNESS
MR. WRIGHT, YOU'RE STILL HERE?
HUH?

HUH?
YOU'RE ALL STILL HERE?
Oh, welcome back
YEAH. I OFFERED SASAO SOME DRINKS AND WANTED TO TALK TO HIM AFTER THAT.
BUT... HE WAS COMPLETELY DRUNK AFTER ONE CAN OF *BEER*...
HAVE YOU BEEN AT THE SPIDER MANSION THIS WHOLE TIME?

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
?
HEY!!

CREAK

NOT HERE, EITHER!

step

step

CREAK

YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN SENTENCED! NOT GUILTY!

ALL RISE!

I DON'T ADD OUR ANYWHERE AND EVERYONE IN AGREEMENT

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING? WHEN YOU DONE OUT AGAIN?

AS THE HEAD OF THIS FAMILY, HOW OUGHT TO BE MORE SELF-CONSCIOUS?

BEEP

Are you there!?

THANK GOD, I'M SAVED! HIMEKO!

PANIC!!

THERE'S NO TIME TO EXPLAIN!

MUDDY!!!

GO PULL THE MAIN BREAKER IMMEDIATELY!!

THERE'S NO TIME, SO PLEASE!

UGH... THREE MINUTES UNTIL IGNITION!!

OH I SEE MY THAT THING OVER ON WHENEVER THERE'S A POWER SURGE AND OUR ELECTRICITY GOES OUT

WHERE IS THAT THING ANYWAY?

SURELY YOU'VE USED IT DURING POWER OUTAGES?

A CIRCUIT BREAKER

SAGA HE WANTS US TO PULL THE BREAKER

WHAT'S A BREAKER?

OH, I SEE

THAT'S AN ELECTRICAL POWER

I SAW IT IN THE ENTRY HALL

SAGA, PLEASE

WHAT A PAIN

BUT WHY THE BREAKER?

ARE YOU STILL HALF ASLEEP, DEAD?

Hurry up and pull the breaker!!

No, I'm not still half asleep!! There's no time, so hurry!!

THAT MAN... H-HE'S BECOME A SPIDER!

MR. KOMORI, JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON?

MAYBE HE'S REALLY DRUNK...

He he was crawling around on the ceiling like a spider

A SPIDER... MAN...?

HE CAME BACK FROM HELL TO TAKE HIS REVENGE ON ME!

AND HE CLUNG ONTO THE CEILING, GLARING DOWN AT ME...

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

IT WAS JIROU KIMURA!

Hurry up and pull the breaker if you don't do it quickly

Hey, you, done yet?

CLICK

Pat

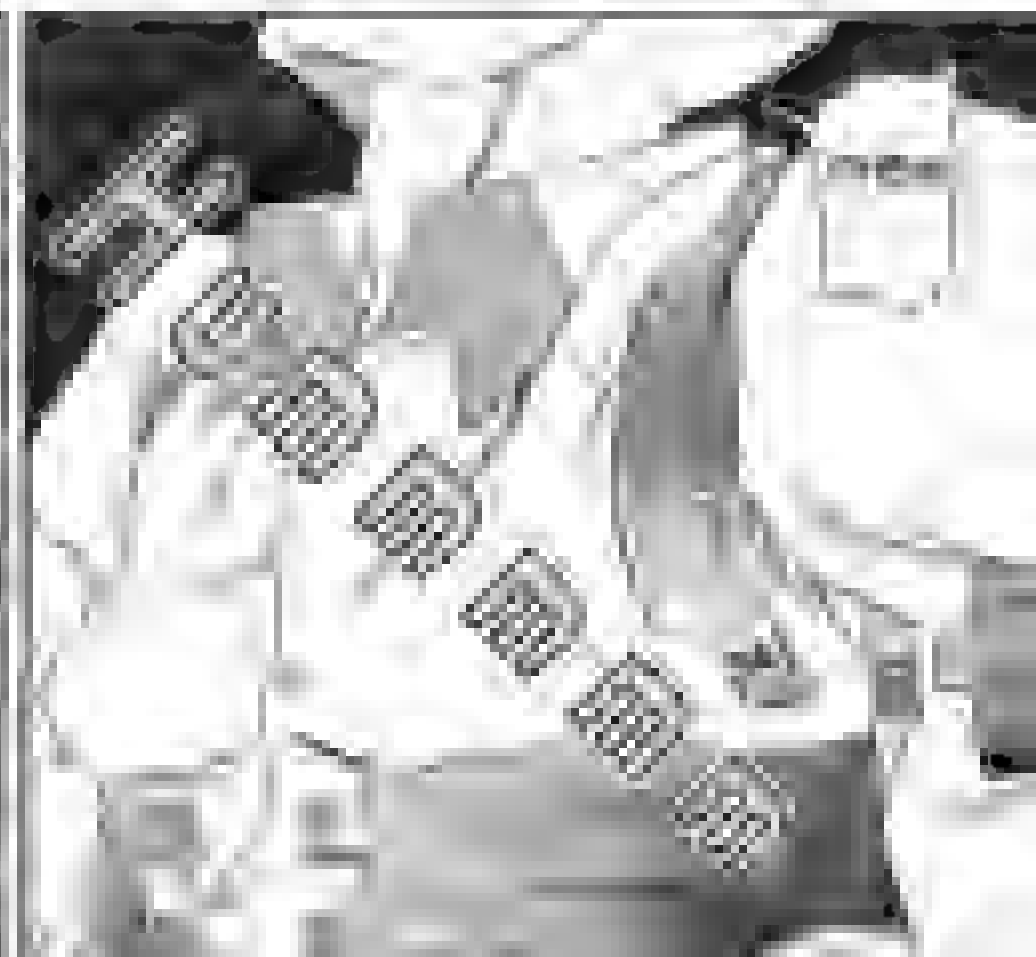
Pat

BEEEP! I-IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD, ISN'T IT?

CLICK

Clack
Clack
Clack
Clack

I WON!
HAHA HAHA HAHA HA!



HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT!?

YOU CAN'T KILL ME THAT EASILY...

WHA

AAAAA

BANG

AAAA

CLATTER

CLATTER

THERE...!

THE SPIDER MAN-SION...

IT'S ON FIRE!?

September 21st, 1:17 AM
The Second House (Spider Mansion)
Burned Remnants

LOOKS LIKE THEY POURED KEROSENE IN HERE FIRST, THEN SET THE WHOLE PLACE ON FIRE.

OOF, IT REEKS OF KEROSENE!

MY NOSE FEELS LIKE IT'S GUNNA FALL OFF!

OH, AND...

LOOKS LIKE THE VICTIM *DIDN'T DIE FROM INHALING THE SMOKE.*

WHOA! HEY PAL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?

Good evening!

You can't just wander around this place.

WELL, IT JUST SORT OF ENDED UP THIS WAY.

HOW CAN I EXPLAIN THIS..

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?

...COULD YOU EXPLAIN THAT IN MORE DETAIL, PLEASE?

YOU BET CAUGHT UP IN WAY TOO MANY RUNDLE CASES, PAL!

SEEZ.

THIS MAN IS DICK GUMSHOE, ALSO KNOWN AS DETECTIVE GUMSHOE.

HE MAY LOOK SCARY AT FIRST GLANCE, BUT HE'S THE GOOD-NATURED DETECTIVE OF THIS JURISDICTION WHO HELPS OTHERS BUT WHEN THERE'S TROUBLE.

THERE ISN'T ANY EVIDENCE THAT SHOWS IS MISLEADING ANYTHING.

AND YOU MEAN BY THAT?

SUCH

ALSO...

I CAN'T BE SURE UNTIL THEY DO THE AUTOPSY, PAL, BUT

THAT WAS PROBABLY THE FATAL BLOW.

HE'S GOT A MASSIVE *BRUISE* ON THE BACK OF HIS HEAD, PAL.

THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP

BUT WHO DID THIS?

Y-YOU MEAN THAT HE DIDN'T DIE AS A RESULT OF THE FIRE.

HEY PAL EVERYONE S[illegible] AT THE MANSION, RIGHT?

I NEED TO ASK THEM A FEW QUESTIONS.

BUT *FROM SOMEONE BEATING HIM TO DEATH...!?*

September 21st, 1:43 AM
Reception Room

THE FORENSICS REPORT JUST CAME IN, PAL.

LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT...

MR. KOMORI WAS MURDERED!?

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT...?

BUT THE KOMORI RESIDENCE *HAS EIGHT SECURITY CAMERAS.*

AND WHEN THEY DETECT A TRESPASSER, THE BUZZER GOES OFF...

PERHAPS SOMEONE SNUCK IN AND KILLED HIM.

HE DID HAVE A LOT OF ENEMIES...

IS RIGHT HERE IN THIS ROOM...!?

GASP

YOU MEAN THE MUR-DERER...

GULP

GASP

DON'T TELL ME THAT MAN...!?

SO, ASSUMING SOMEONE IN HERE WAS THE MURDERER...

HOW WERE THEY ABLE TO KILL HIM?

Honey!? What are you doing in a place like that?

BUT AS FAR AS I KNOW... EVERYONE HERE HAS AN ALIBI.

AND WHAT ABOUT THE MESSAGE THE CEO LEFT BEHIND...?

THE MAN THAT CRAWLED AROUND THE CEILING LIKE A SPIDER...

JUST WHAT IS THAT ABOUT!?

What is the truth behind this bizarre Spider Man case!?
At last, the stage is set for a courtroom battle!
<To be continued in Bessatsu Young Magazine #20>

June 3rd, 2007
Notes and References

'Kumo Otoko' (蜘蛛男): This chapter was rather difficult to translate due to the fact that the mysterious murderer was called 'kumo otoko' in Japanese. Directly translated, 'kumo otoko' means 'spider man', which bears an unfortunate resemblance to the name of one of Marvel's most recognizable superheroes. As a result of this, many sentences were rephrased to preserve the serious tone of the scene.

The spider books mentioned by Hatsurou on Page 3 are the following:

Kiss of the Spider Woman (Kumo-onna no Kiss - 蜘蛛女のキス) – The only one of the three books that has an English translation, it was written in Spanish in 1976 by Argentinean author Manuel Puig. It later spawned a Broadway musical and an Oscar-nominated movie of the same name.

The Spider's Thread (Kumo no Ito - 蜘蛛の糸) – A children's short novel by Ryuunosuke Akutagawa (芥川　龍之介) about a criminal who goes to hell after his death. A spider he once saved (the only good deed in his life) lowers a spider thread down from heaven to him so he can escape the underworld. However, he refuses to help other criminals follow him up out of selfishness, and therefore gets dropped back down into hell.

A Spider-Demon's Justice (Jorougumo no Kotowari - 絡新婦の理) – A series of novels released as recent as 2006 by mystery writer Natsuhiko Kyougoku (京極　夏彦). It seems to be a set of whodunit type of murder stories without any actual spiders in it. The name is a bit troublesome to translate—a 'jorougumo' is a fictional spider-like monster that can transform into a beautiful woman.

Page 22: The legal drinking age in Japan is 20. However, what Phoenix says still makes sense for an American audience; Sara, not yet 20, would not be allowed to drink in the States either.

Please keep this note with the scanlation.

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Raw Scans: Ritual Scan Forge - http://teamangelsub.free.fr/Ritual.htm
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